

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A ~~An~~ siRNA delivery mixture comprising a dendrimer and a nucleic acid capable of mediating RNA interference (RNAi).

15-16. (Canceled)

17. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 14, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a nucleotide sequence that encodes an RNA precursor capable of mediating RNAi.

18. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 17, wherein the nucleotide sequence that encodes an RNA precursor capable of mediating RNAi is operably linked to a polymerase III promoter.

19. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 14, wherein the nucleic acid is an RNA molecule.

20. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 19, wherein the RNA molecule is selected from the group consisting of a small interfering RNA (siRNA), micro-RNA (miRNA) and short hairpin RNA (shRNA).

21. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 20, wherein the RNA molecule is miRNA.

22. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 20, wherein the RNA molecule is shRNA

23. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 20, wherein the RNA molecule is siRNA.

24. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 23, wherein the siRNA comprises a sense strand and an antisense strand, wherein the antisense strand has a sequence sufficiently complementary to a target mRNA sequence to direct target-specific RNAi.

25. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 24, wherein the sense strand and antisense strand are crosslinked.

26. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 25, wherein the siRNA contains a single crosslink.
27. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 25, wherein the sense strand and antisense strand are psoralen crosslinked.
28. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 24, wherein the siRNA comprises a modification at the 3' OH terminus of the sense strand or antisense strand.
29. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 28, wherein the modification at the 3' OH terminus is selected from the group consisting of biotin, a peptide, a nanoparticle, a peptidomimetic and a dendrimer.
30. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 28, wherein the modification at the 3' OH terminus is photocleavable biotin.
31. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 28, wherein the modification at the 3' OH terminus is a dendrimer.
32. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 31, wherein the dendrimer is PAMAM.
33. (New) The delivery mixture of any one of claims 23-32, wherein the siRNA is between about 16 and 30 nucleotides in length.
34. (New) The delivery mixture of any one of claims 23-32, wherein the siRNA is about 21 nucleotides in length.
35. (New) The delivery mixture of any one of claims 24-34, wherein the antisense and sense strands are aligned such that the siRNA has 3' overhangs of between 1 and 4 nucleotides.

36. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 35, wherein the siRNA has 2-nucleotide 3' overhangs.
37. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 36, wherein the 2-nucleotide 3' overhangs are dTdT or UU.
38. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 14, wherein the dendrimer is selected from the group consisting of PAMAM, diaminobutane (DAB) and polyethylene glycol (PEG).
39. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 38, wherein the dendrimer is PAMAM
40. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 39, wherein the PAMAM and siRNA are present at a PAMAM:siRNA ratio of between about 10 μ g and about 1mg of PAMAM per 100 pmol siRNA.
41. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 39, wherein the PAMAM and siRNA are present at a PAMAM:siRNA ratio of between about 20 μ g and about 40 μ g PAMAM per 100 pmol siRNA.
42. (New) The delivery mixture of claim 39, wherein the PAMAM and siRNA are present at a PAMAM:siRNA ratio of about 40 μ g PAMAM per 100 pmol siRNA.